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S P O K A N E C O U N T Y - K E Y T R O N I C Superfund Branch
N E W S L E T T E R

COLBERT PROPERTY OWNERS UPDATE - August, 1986

THIS NEWSLETTER is sponsored by the Spokane County Commissioners and Key Tronic Corporation (KTC). It is produced by Bruce G. Austin, who acts as the Spokane County and KTC coordinator and contact person with respect to Colbert Landfill contamination matters. The purpose of this newsletter is to provide information about the condition of the Colbert Aquifers.

The Connection Policy of Spokane County & KTC. Any residence with a contaminated well which is 500 feet or less from a Whitworth Water District water main will be connected by the County and KTC to the Whitworth Water District water main. If the residence is outside the Whitworth Water District service area or beyond 500 feet from the main, then the County and KTC will consider alternative solutions, such as a filtering system, extension of Whitworth Water District lines or other available action.

A "contaminated" well is one with a priority chemical present above the MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level) or Proposed Maximum Contaminant Level established for municipal water systems. The current threshold standard for 1,1,1-trichloroethane is 200 ppb (parts per billion).

The connection will include water lines as required by Whitworth Water District, installation of a water meter and reverse flow protection device, connection into the residence, and a frost-free yard hydrant. The County and KTC may require a Release of Claims as a condition of connection to a water system at their expense.

Background and Sampling Policy of Spokane County and KTC. A Remedial Investigation has been conducted by the Washington Department of Ecology (WDOE) following a three (3) year study by Spokane County in conjunction with George Maddox & Associates. These studies have attempted to define the geology and hydrology of the area. Additional studies are being conducted by WDOE to determine the feasibility of reducing ground water contamination. All of the information available, including the sampling of wells within a given aquifer, is reviewed to determine the area of contamination.

At this time, the two (2) major sources of well water in the North Colbert area have been identified as:

- (1) The Upper Aquifer (Upper Sands) 70' to 100' below the landfill surface; and
- (2) Lower Aquifer (Lower Sands) from about 160' to 200+' below the landfill surface.

Each Aquifer is flowing in a different direction. Consequently, wells in the same geographic area, but in different aquifers, are affected differently.

The present cost to sample well water is \$50.00 for collection and \$75.00 for analysis. This provides documentation of the sampling and printed results showing a Volatile Organic Scan, indicating whether one or more of nineteen (19) chemicals are present.

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Sampling Policy. A statistical sampling program has been created to monitor the plume area. This program, funded by the County and KTC, collects two hundred (200) samples during a year and is designed to monitor wells both inside and outside the known area of contamination. Not all wells in an area of chemical presence will be sampled by the County and KTC.

If you want your well tested and are not on the sampling plan, contact Bruce G. Austin at 922-1470 or 459-5790 mobile phone. You will need to provide some information on your well, such as location, depth, depth to water, and any other data that you might have, including a well drillers' log.

Review of Sampling Program by Subcommittee. The Colbert Landfill Sampling Program is reviewed by a subcommittee at least monthly. The subcommittee was established by the County Commissioners and KTC with Bruce Austin as Chairman. Standing members are representatives of Spokane Utilities Department, Spokane County Assessor, Spokane County Health Department, Whitworth Water District, Washington Department of Ecology, Key Tronic Corporation, and homeowners in the Colbert area. Larry Esvelt of Esvelt Environmental Engineering is retained as a professional consultant for sampling, and ABC Labs is collecting and analyzing the water samples. Golder & Associates, the WDOE contractor which conducted the Remedial Investigation, is doing the Feasibility Study and sends a representative to the meetings when possible.

If you know someone who would like to receive future copies of this newsletter -- write to Bruce G. Austin, P.O.Box 14028, Spokane, Wa., 99214.

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